

Form PTO-1449

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION
IN AN APPLICATION**

(Use several sheets if necessary)

APR 08 2002

Docket Number (Optional)
4294.3US (98-1208.3)Application Number
09/996,423

Applicant John Whitman et al.

Filing Date November 28, 2001

Group Art Unit 2823

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER INITIAL | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE |
|---------------------|--------------------|---------|----------------|-------|----------|-------------------------------|
| TUP | 5,238,878 | 08/1993 | Shinohara | 1 | 1 | |
| TUP | 5,677,001 | 10/1997 | Wang et al. | 1 | 1 | |
| TUP | 6,046,083 | 04/2000 | Lin et al. | 1 | 1 | |
| TUP | 6,117,486 | 09/2000 | Yoshihara | 1 | 1 | |
| TUP | 6,278,153 | 08/2001 | Kikuchi et al. | 1 | 1 | |
| TUP | 6,326,282 | 12/2001 | Park et al. | 1 | 1 | |
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

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OTHER DOCUMENTS

(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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EXAMINER

John Whitman

DATE CONSIDERED

10/25/02

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

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Sheet 1 of 1

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|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| Form PTO-1449 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION (Use several sheets if necessary) | Docket Number (Optional) 4294.3US (98-1208.3) | Application Number Not Yet Assigned 09/996423 |
| | Applicant John Whitman et al. | |
| | Filing Date November 28, 2001 | Group Art Unit 2823 Unknown |

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER INITIAL | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE |
|---------------------|--------------------|---------|-----------------|-------|----------|-------------------------------|
| TUP | 4,518,678 | 05/1985 | Allen | — | — | |
| TUP | 5,663,090 | 09/1997 | Dennison et al. | — | — | |
| | 5,818,111 | 10/1998 | Jeng et al. | — | — | |
| | 5,821,621 | 10/1998 | Jeng | — | — | |
| | 5,824,603 | 10/1998 | Cho | — | — | |
| | 5,855,962 | 01/1999 | Cote et al. | — | — | |
| | 5,900,290 | 05/1999 | Yang et al. | — | — | |
| | 5,923,074 | 07/1999 | Jeng | — | — | |
| | 5,937,323 | 08/1999 | Orczyk et al. | — | — | |
| | 5,972,803 | 10/1999 | Shu et al. | — | — | |
| | 5,980,657 | 11/1999 | Farrar et al. | — | — | |
| TUP | 5,994,231 | 11/1999 | Sonego et al. | — | — | |

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

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OTHER DOCUMENTS

(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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| EXAMINER <i>Whitman</i> | DATE CONSIDERED 10/25/02 |
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